

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 17-19, 21, 22, 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, 37, 39, 40, 42-44, 46, 49, 52, 57, 59 and 65-67 have been amended to improve form and claims 20, 30, 34 and 36 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-19, 21-29, 31-33, 35 and 37-69 are now pending in this application.

Initially, the applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the indication that claims 18-20, 22, 27, 29, 36, 37 and 39 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 9 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. More particularly, the Office Action states that the term “the packet flows” in claim 9 and the term “the traffic signature” in claim 17 lack antecedent basis. Claim 9 has been amended to depend from claim 8 and claim 17 has been amended to remove the word “the” from the phrase “the traffic signatures”. Claims 9 and 17 are now believed to comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9 and 17 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 12-17, 21, 23-25, 30, 31, 33-35, 38, 40, 43-45, 49-50, 52-55, 58, 60 and 63-69 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gleichauf et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,107; hereinafter Gleichauf) in view of Nikander et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,321; hereinafter Nikander). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not concurring with the rejection but to expedite prosecution, claim 1, as amended, recites features previously recited in original 20, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, claim 1, as amended, is believed to be in condition for

allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 1 are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7, 12-17, 21 and 23 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons claim 1 is allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 2-7, 12-17, 21 and 23 are respectfully requested.

While not concurring with the rejection but to expedite prosecution, claim 24, as amended, recites features previously recited in original 36, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, claim 24, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 24 are respectfully requested.

Claims 25, 31, 33, 35, 38 and 40 depend from claim 24 and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons claim 24 is allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 25, 31, 33, 35, 38 and 40 are respectfully requested.

Claims 42, 46, 57 and 59 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gleichauf in view of Nikander and further in view of Trcka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,453,345; hereinafter Trcka). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not concurring with the rejection but to expedite prosecution, claims 42 and 57, as amended, recite features similar to those in original claim 20, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 42 and 57 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 42 and 57 are respectfully requested.

Claims 43-46, 49, 50, 52-55, 58-60 and 63-69 variously depend from claims 42 and 57 and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons claims 42 and 57 are allowable.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 43-46, 49, 50, 52-55, 58-60 and 63-69 are respectfully requested.

Claims 8-11, 26, 28, 32, 41, 47, 48, 51, 56, 61 and 62 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gleichauf in view of Nikander and further in view of Copeland III (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0105976). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not concurring with the rejection, the applicants note that claims 8-11, 26, 28, 32, 41, 47, 48, 51, 56, 61 and 62 variously depend on claims 1, 24, 27, 42 and 57 and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons their respective independent claims are allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 8-11, 26, 28, 32, 41, 47, 48, 51, 56, 61 and 62 are respectfully requested.

Claims 18, 22, 27 and 39 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 18, 22, 27 and 39 have hereby been rewritten in independent form and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of claim 18, 22, 27 and 39 is respectfully requested.


**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and the timely allowance of this application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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